

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's allowability of dependent claims 2, 10-13, 15, and 18, as well as a recognition of the allowability of dependent claim 14 upon correction of the antecedent basis rejection.

5 Claims 1-17 and 19-21, as amended, are pending for consideration by the Examiner. The specification at page 3, line 33 and Claim 3 have been amended to clarify that 34°F is intended rather than "degrees Celsius," which erroneously listed the wrong units (*See, e.g.*, Specification at page 8, first paragraph). Claim 1 now stands allowed by reciting claim 10 in independent form, and claim 10 has been canceled accordingly. Claim
10 2 has been rewritten in independent form to include the features of claim 1, and as such now stands allowed. To clarify the record regarding claim 2, it is the second transport mechanism that is inclined and that moves the ice pieces rather than the vessel itself. Claim 11 has been amended to depend from claim 1 rather than canceled claim 10. Claim 12 has been rewritten in independent form, as well. Claim 14 has been amended to depend from
15 claim 2 to provide antecedent basis for the first and second transport mechanisms. Claim 15 has been amended to remove language that is redundant to amended claim 1. Claim 16 now stands allowed by reciting claim 18 in independent form, and claim 18 has been canceled accordingly. Applicant reserves the right to file one or more continuing applications directed to any canceled or unclaimed subject matter, such that no estoppel is
20 intended to attach to any of the rewriting of claims herein into independent form. Moreover, no new matter is believed to have been added by virtue of these amendments such that the claims are in condition for entry at this time.

 Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for indefiniteness due to antecedent basis, as noted on page 2 of the Office Action. It is
25 believed that the amendment of claim 14 to depend from claim 2, which introduces the first and second transport mechanisms, provides suitable antecedent basis for these terms in claim 14. As such, this rejection is believed to have been overcome and should be withdrawn.

The remaining claims have all been amended to depend from allowable claims. As such, the rejections are all believed to be moot and Applicant now believes all claims to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner not agree with this position, a further telephone or personal interview is requested to resolve any remaining issues and expedite allowance of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

Jeffrey A. Wolfson
Jeffrey A. Wolfson (Reg. No. 42,234)

WINSTON & STRAWN LLP
Customer No. 28765

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202-282-5770